

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Fourpence

1st April, 1961

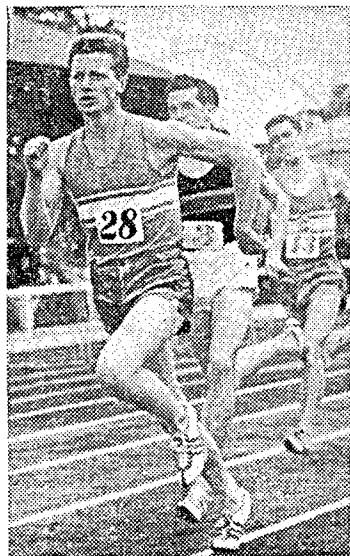
TOUGH TIME FOR TONY

The young man who wants to be Britain's best half-miler

If hard work and determination can make a champion, then it should not be long before 19-year-old Tony Harris is at the top of the athletic ladder. Few people train harder than this young Surrey runner, who already has a string of junior records to his name, and seems certain to add to his laurels this season, his first as a senior.

BRIAN HEWSON has said that this season will be his last in top-class running, writes a CN correspondent. And the man who is being spoken of as his likely successor is his Mitcham club-mate, Tony Harris. Tony is the British Under-19 record-holder at both 880 yards and one mile, and is "yards ahead" of his contemporaries.

"But this is probably my most important year," he says, "my first in senior athletics. When you become a senior everyone soon forgets how young you are."



Tony Harris in the lead

Tony reckons that a middle-distance runner has to reach the top class by the time he is 21. He is obviously well on the way. Already he has run a mile in 4 minutes 9.1 seconds (a European junior record) and he hopes to reduce this to 4 minutes 4 seconds this year. But this will be his aim in training for the 800-metre events in next year's European Games in Yugoslavia and the Empire Games in Perth.

"This year," says Tony's coach, Frank Mitchell, "I want Tony to run more mile races to strengthen

his body, and next Summer come down to 880 yards, his main distance."

In fact, the whole emphasis in Tony's training is on building stamina and strength. This Winter he has been running between 50 and 60 lonely miles every week on the roads. After every session he does toughening-up exercises in the gym and twice a week he does weight training.

Other forms of strengthening work include running up sandhills and going on 20-mile hikes with 40 lb. of lead weights in his rucksack.

Strength needed

There is a definite purpose behind all this hard work. Says Frank Mitchell: "Tony was quite a weakly-built youngster when he came to me four years ago, although he had a natural speed which carried him through in boys' races. But you have to be really strong to succeed in senior athletics."

Tony, who is 5 feet 8½ inches, weighs 9 stone 7 lb., and can press nearly his own weight above his head—a feat accomplished by the great Herb Elliott, and one that Tony hopes to do before long.

Britain's Chief National Coach, Geoff Dyson, was most impressed by Tony's strength when he was taking a young athletes' course at Loughborough College last year. Tony and Mike Bellingham were easily the strongest—and Mike is a shot-putter!

Fit for football

Oddly enough, as a schoolboy Tony Harris thoroughly disliked running. "Too much like hard work," he says with a grin. In fact, he only went on the school cross-country runs to keep fit for football, his main interest at the time. After leaving school, however, he joined the Mitcham Athletic Club (mainly for the badge, he admits). Thanks to Frank Mitchell, it was not long before

AT THE DOUBLE



A little exercise for Pedro the llama at Whipsnade — and also for the Zoo hostess.

A NICE CUPPA FROM AFRICA

More and more of the tea we drink is coming from Africa. According to the International Tea Committee, the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland last year sent us 21,750,000 lb., over a million lb. more for the cup that cheers than in 1959.

The Federation has now moved up into third place among the countries which supply Britain with tea; India and Ceylon still lead.

Vikings land in the Isle of Man

Crown Prince Harald of Norway has been invited to Peel in July to see a Viking festival in which the landing of the Vikings in the Isle of Man will be staged. He will attend the Tynwald ceremony at which new laws are proclaimed in Manx and English.

Cherry syrup instead of polio jabs

A pleasant drink instead of a jab from a needle—that is the promise of the future to children needing inoculation against polio.

A report which the Medical Research Council has sent to Mr. Enoch Powell, Minister of Health, suggests that anti-polio syrup, perhaps cherry-flavoured, or else a pill, could now replace that "shot in the arm."

A new vaccine to be taken in this way has been successfully tried out at Miami, U.S.A. And Russian doctors claim that 80 million people have been protected from polio by vaccine in pill or syrup form.

But before the syrup is introduced in Britain it may be necessary to use up existing stocks of the Salk vaccine, injected by needle.

Roughing it in the Arctic

Four men of the Yorkshire Regiment, called the Green Howards, are now in Norway preparing for a trek designed to test their endurance. With units of the Norwegian Army, they will travel by weasel tractors and dog teams deep within the Arctic Circle, trying to cover 220 miles in ten days. Living as best they can in the icy

wastes, they will eat what they can catch by fishing and hunting, and sleep in snow-holes. As extra rations they will have a special mixture of bully beef and fats; and perhaps as an added test of endurance they will drink cod-liver oil by the eggcupful.

SOUTH AFRICA LEAVES

By the CN Diplomatic Correspondent

On 31st May the Union of South Africa will cease to be a member of the Commonwealth and become a foreign republic. Dr. Hendrik Verwoerd made this unhappy announcement to the other Commonwealth prime ministers in London on 15th March. In future the Queen will be represented there not by a Governor-General, but by an ambassador.

THE future of South Africa is uncertain, though Mr. Macmillan has said the door remains open for her return. But no one knows exactly what this step will mean for the country's 9 million Africans, 1.3 million Coloureds (of mixed Asian and Dutch blood), some 500,000 Asians, and 3 million whites. Only the history of the break is clear.

About one-third of the white people are of British descent. The others are mainly of Afrikaner (or Boer) stock whose forefathers settled in the Cape of Good Hope in 1652. The British arrived after the Napoleonic wars.

Races in conflict

Meanwhile Bantu tribes—black Africans—poured down to the south from Central Africa. There the modern story really began—the story of races in conflict.

Wars between Bantu and Boer were followed by the Boer War of 1899-1902 between the British and the descendants of the Dutch. Britain won, and the Boers became British subjects. In 1910 the Transvaal and the Orange Free State, provinces mainly

populated by Afrikaners, joined with the British-controlled Cape Province and Natal. The Union of South Africa came into being and joined the Commonwealth.



Dr. Hendrik Verwoerd, South Africa's Premier

Nevertheless, the distrust between Afrikaners and British remained. largely over political representation of the Africans. The first pointer to the present climax came in 1948 when the National Party was elected to office.

The National Party, dominated by Afrikaners, believes in white supremacy and *baaskap*, or boss-ship; that black men are generally inferior to white and must be kept apart; that white-colonised country must be ruled by whites. The modern name for this segregation policy is *apartheid*, meaning apart-hood.

During its 13 years of power

the National Party has clamped political and social restrictions on non-whites, at the same time claiming that apartheid is good for them.

But since 1948 India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Ghana, Malaya, and Nigeria have joined the Commonwealth.

Apartheid is particularly repugnant to them and in condemning the policy at the recent London conference they were joined by older Commonwealth countries.

Heard with dismay

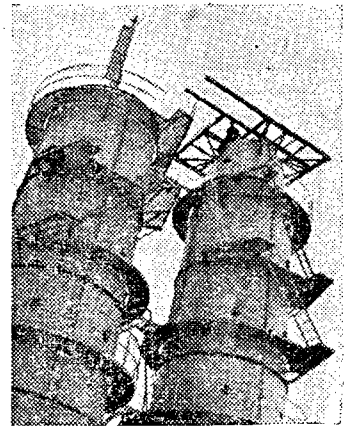
There were long discussions but in the end, with all the other prime ministers standing firm on the principle of racial equality, Dr. Verwoerd decided with "sincere regret" that South Africa's only course must be to leave the Commonwealth. She will accordingly cease to be a member on becoming a republic at the end of May.

Though not entirely unexpected, the news was dramatic, and it was heard with dismay by many millions of people, particularly by South Africans who have kinsmen in Britain and to whom this country is still "home."

But the day may yet come when South Africa will change her racial policy and ask to return to the Commonwealth. And on that day all the Commonwealth will rejoice.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

Lime kilns for Russia



Two giant steel kilns to produce milk of lime, for purifying beet sugar, have been built at Claydon, near Ipswich. After inspection, they will be dismantled and shipped to Russia.

COST OF RUST

An exhibition of metallic corrosion (rust, verdigris, etc.) and its prevention, is on view at London's Science Museum until 22nd April. Metallic corrosion costs Britain at least £200,000,000 a year—£5 per head.

The Chief Guide, Olave, Lady Baden Powell, has returned from a world tour of about 18,000 miles. In the past 30 years she has covered 350,000 miles on her visits to overseas Guides and Scouts.

Jersey now gets about £14,000,000 a year from its tourist industry.

Boscobel House, Shropshire, where King Charles II hid in an oak after the Battle of Worcester, it to be re-opened to the public from 1st April. It has been closed for repairs for nearly a year.

THEY SAY...

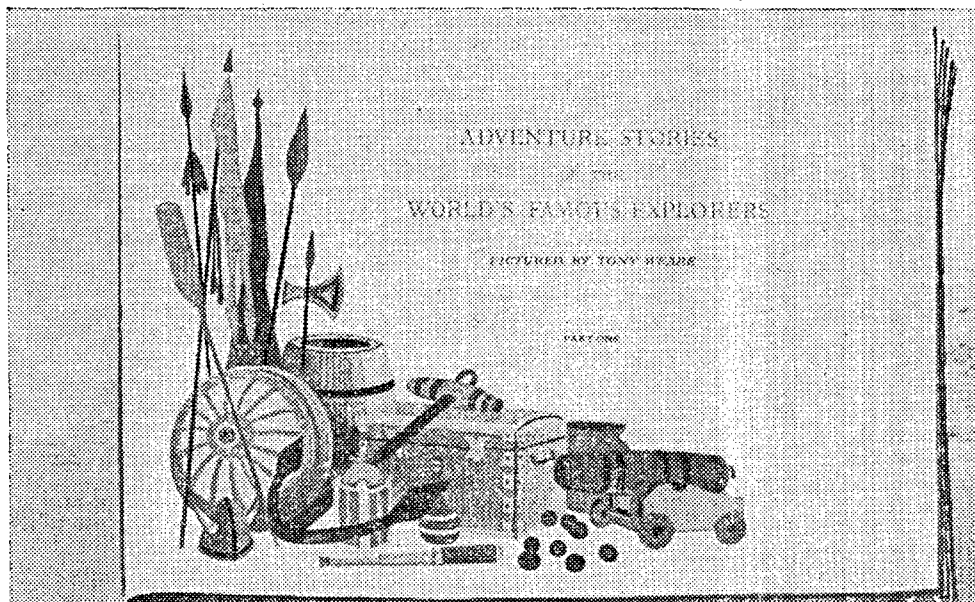
A Papyrus of 3,000 B.C. records that "young people are not what they used to be."

Professor Ben Morris of Bristol University

BE Alive to Others on the Road
Slogan for Scotland's new Road Safety Campaign

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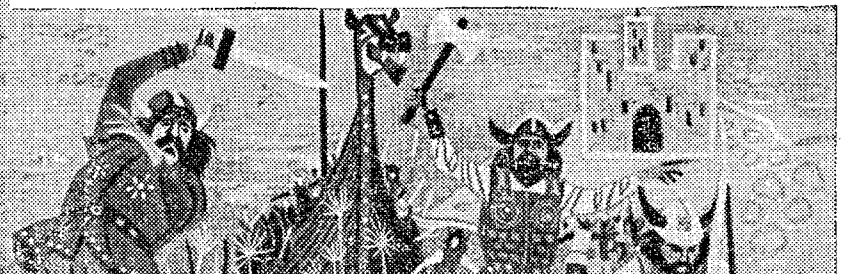


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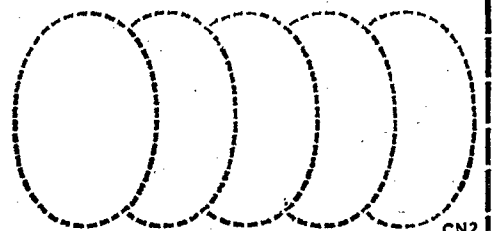
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CN2

Young German Ambassadors of Friendship

Not long ago, young people in West Berlin took part in an essay competition. They had to write their impressions of India from what they had seen in books, newspapers, or films. Now two of them, Bernhard Leineweber and Renate Arnd, both 17, have been able to see the real thing. As winners of the competition they have just made a month's tour of India.

They took with them thousands of toys, from the children of Berlin to the Indian children they would meet on their journey.

Arriving in Calcutta, they went to Bombay, Dahanu, Sarat, Ahmedabad, and finally New Delhi, where they spent a fortnight. They stayed with Indian families.

The competition and the trip were organised by the Berlin Committee of the Share Your Toys Foundation, a body set up in India just two years ago to encourage friendly relations between children of different countries. The Committee collected more than 40,000 toys for Indian school-children visited by the "Goodwill Ambassadors" from Berlin.

DO IT FOR OTHERS

Uncle Mac (Derek McCulloch) has coined a new slogan for his Easter appeal on behalf of the Central Council for the Care of Cripples.

"The modern slogan is 'Do it yourself,'" he says, "but I have learned that there is something far more pleasurable in Doing it for Others . . . who because of sickness and severe disability just cannot do it for themselves. So please make it a 'Do it for Others' Easter."

One way of achieving this is by buying a booklet of 30 Easter seals in gay colours designed by Peter Kneebone. The booklet costs 2s. 6d. and can be obtained from: The Central Council for the Care of Cripples, 34 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

Great model railway show

The Model Railway Club are holding their exhibition at the Central Hall, Westminster, from 4th to 8th April, and the handiwork of amateur craftsmen from all over Britain will be on view.

Exhibits will include ten working layouts in different gauges, and a larger track on which free rides will be given in coaches drawn by miniature steam engines.

Two of the modellers will be seen using small lathes and bench drills to make their small-scale working parts.

The Model Railway Club now has nearly 700 members. Some are fortunate in having well-equipped workshops, others work on the kitchen table, but all are united by their craftsmanship.

Royal Maundy at Rochester

Rochester is celebrating the 500th anniversary of its charter this year, and to honour the occasion the Queen is visiting the City on 30th March to distribute the Royal Maundy in Rochester Cathedral.

This ancient custom commemorates the washing of the disciples' feet by Jesus at the Last Supper and the "new commandment" He gave them afterwards. (Maundy is from an old French word meaning "demanded"). In bygone

days the kings or queens of England actually washed the feet of as many poor men and women as there were years in the sovereign's age. James II was the last monarch to do so.

Nowadays specially minted coins called Maundy money are distributed to aged men and women. Though legal tender, this money seldom passes into circulation, being too eagerly prized by the recipients or sought by collectors.



In this lively new series, we see just some of the ways in which Mr. Therm helps us all.

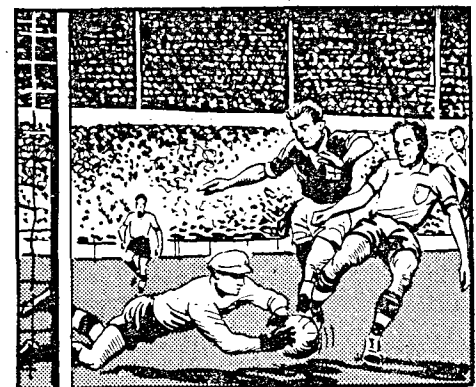
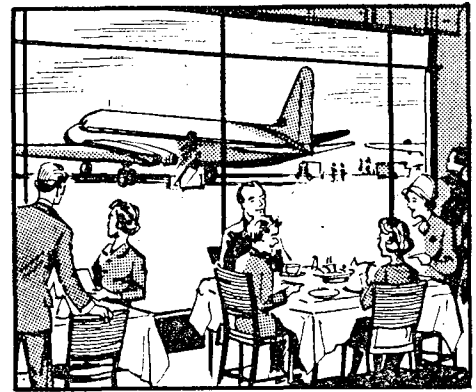
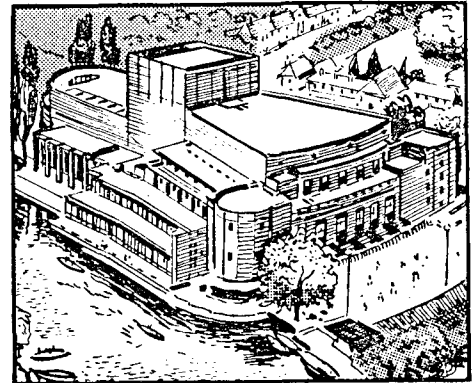
ONE of Mr. Therm's many activities is catering on a large scale. Not only does he play a large part in helping Mummy prepare her meals—he's also very busy ensuring that when you go out for the day and want a meal, there's a nice one ready for you, all piping hot.

At the famous Shakespeare Memorial Theatre at Stratford on Avon, the latest gas appliances are on hand to give speedy, efficient service to the 43,000 people who come there every year. Mr. Therm helps to serve over 1,300 meals and 12,400 hot drinks every week! The theatre—that's it in our top drawing—stands in a lovely position on the banks of the river Avon, and during the intervals people stroll on its terraces. While they admire the actor on the stage, there's that other versatile actor, Mr. Therm, busy behind the scenes in the restaurant, also working hard for their enjoyment.

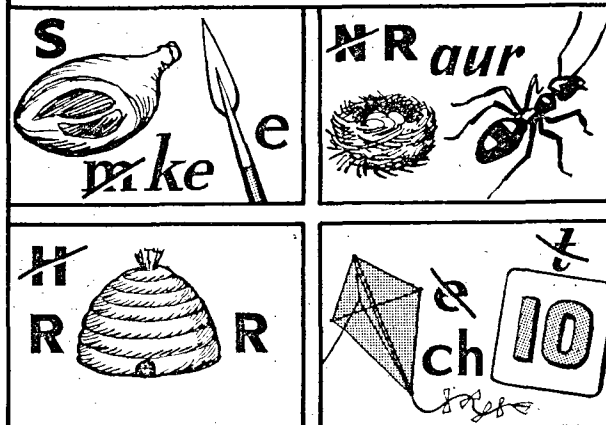
London Airport, too, is another world famous place where Mr. Therm flies high. The airport is one of the busiest air terminals in the world, and over three and a half million passengers pass through it every year. 500 planes use it every day. It takes a large and efficient staff to cope with all this, and Mr. Therm helps them to "rev up" for the job with well cooked meals. Well over a quarter of a million therms of gas a year are supplied to London Airport. And the meals you enjoy on the plane have almost certainly been prepared by Mr. Therm!

Cup Final day will soon be here and the eyes of all football lovers are turned on the Empire Stadium, Wembley. Thousands of fans will be on hand to support their favourites, but even supporters need supporting, and Mr. Therm tackles that role with his customary speed and skill. During a busy day like Cup Final day the Stadium's modern gas kitchen will provide meals for 500 people at a sitting!

So wherever you go, you'll find Mr. Therm helping you enjoy your leisure that much more. Wonderful Mr. Therm!



DONT MISS OUR SUPER COMPETITION!



HERE'S WHAT TO DO

Each of these four panels represents the name of something mentioned in the story above. To discover what they are you simply "read" the pictures and letters together.

List your answers neatly on a postcard, add your full name, age and address, then post it to:

Going Places with Mr. Therm No. 5, Children's Newspaper, 3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.).

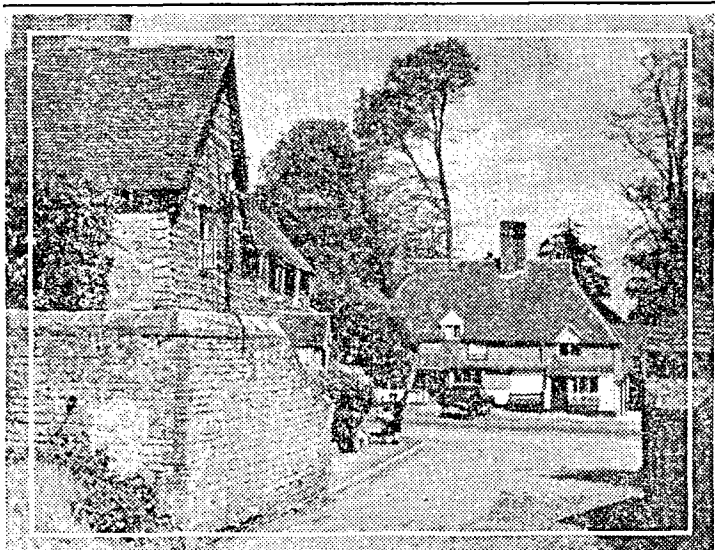
Mr. Therm will award £2 2s. Book Tokens for the three nearest correct entries (with writing according to age taken into consideration) received by Friday, 7th April.

MORE A.B.C. WINNERS!

The winners of our A.B.C. Competition No. 9 are Helen Armitage of Leeds, Stephen Bates of Chesham, and Martin Chester of Hoo.

Issued by the Gas Council.

GAS IS TOPS EVERYWHERE



OUR HOMELAND

In the lovely Surrey village of Witley

Animals won't stick to a script

CAN you trust dogs, cats, parrots, monkeys, and budgerigars to act TV parts and stick to their script? No, says BBC television producer David E. Rose. So, with all respect to these lovable creatures, he decided to make a recording, rather than a "live" showing, of *Town Vet*, an exciting half-hour TV documentary at 8 p.m. this Thursday.

It is the story of one day in the



life of a woman veterinary surgeon. All the animals I mentioned come into the picture. So do their owners, who are sometimes quite a problem to a "vet" because of their anxiety over their pets. In the programme they include two schoolboys and an old lady living alone.

We can see how wide is the range of animal treatment—from emergency operations to a simple case of clipping nails.

Johnny Morris put his foot in it

JOHNNY MORRIS has spent most of this month with a leg in plaster—for the sake of TV. He went to Austria with BBC producer Ron Webster to make a TV film about the joys and sorrows of learning to ski. Joy was followed by sorrow.

There were five days of joy in which Johnny mastered the rudiments and made some excellent ski sequences at speed for a skiing film we shall see in the Autumn. Then, walking back to his hotel, he caught a foot in a pot-hole and broke his ankle!

Two old favourites for your viewing at Easter

IMMORTAL ALICE TOM SAWYER

CAROL MARSH plays the title role in a film version of *Alice In Wonderland* on BBC television on Easter Sunday. Although the film was made some years ago, it was completed about the time of Walt Disney's *Alice* and never got wide publicity.

Apart from Alice, the characters



in the story are played by puppets. In the opening scenes, however, there are "live" actors to show how "Alice" came to be told by Oxford professor Charles Dodgson (Lewis Carroll).

We see him with Alice and her friends at Christ Church, Oxford, where he keeps them amused during a reception to Queen Victoria which they are not allowed to attend.

Stephen Murray plays Lewis Carroll and Pamela Brown is Queen Victoria. The puppets, skilfully fitted into the picture with a "live" Alice, have the voices of star actors. They include the White Rabbit (Ernest Milton), Queen of Hearts (Pamela Brown), Cheshire Cat (Felix Aylmer), Caterpillar (Jack Train), Dormouse (Joyce Grenfell) and the Mad Hatter (Peter Bull).

Alice sings *I'm Upside Down* and the White Rabbit is heard in *I Play The Game*.

MARK TWAIN'S classic, *Tom Sawyer*, has been both filmed and televised. On Easter Monday BBC television is showing an American film version made as far back as 1937. Tom is played by

Tommy Kelly and his staunch friend Huckleberry Finn by Jackie Moran, with Anne Gillis in the role of Becky. Tom's adventures are telescoped into 74 minutes—from 6.20 to 7.34 p.m.



Tom Sawyer, played by Tommy Kelly, stands by while a friend paints the garden fence for him.

New faces down Rabbit Row

Rabbit Row may soon be as familiar to viewers as the street in which they live. That is what Janet Nicolls hopes, anyway. She was talking to me about her new *Small Time* series on Associated-Rediffusion, which continues every Monday until midsummer.

"I have a real street in mind," said Janet. "Not a country thoroughfare but a town street where the animals are up-to-date."

Mr. Tee the Tortoise, and Potter the Rabbit, certainly know what they are about. "Cuthbert is different," said Janet. "He thinks he is a mouse, but is not quite sure."

The puppets, all glove-operated, were made to Janet's design. Janet

Nicolls, who lives amid the antique shops of Kensington, is a keen collector of curios. "At last I am able to have on television some of the objects I've gathered together in the past twelve months. Viewers can see my genuine Victorian tea service and the copper kettle on its stand. I'm proudest, though, of my dog in a glass dome—a real treasure. The room curtains I made out of Victorian dress material.



Janet Nicolls with Potter the Rabbit, Mr. Tee, Cuthbert, and Cat.

Step forward you Anglian singers and dancers

If you live in East Anglia and can sing, dance or play an instrument, Anglia Television may have a spot for you on TV.

Following Southern Television's example, Anglia have opened a Talent Competition with eliminating bouts already in progress at the Theatre Royal, Lowestoft in the regular *Saturday Show*. Viewers who fancy their chances should address letters to Talent Competition, Anglia Television, Anglia House, Norwich.

The Talent Shows, beginning in June, will consist of a knock-out contest between 27 amateur acts until the outright winner is decided in September.

How to talk to mike



Faced with a microphone, many people find it hard to sound natural. Here are some Kent schoolgirls getting tips on the subject from a student at the Rose Bruford College of Speech and Drama, Sidcup.

MEDICAL DETECTIVE Search for the malaria germ

ONE of medicine's greatest "detective stories" is featured in BBC television at 8.30 on the evening of Good Friday. Entitled *They Made History*, the programme tells the true tale of a search for the malaria germ.

If Ronald Ross was the "Sherlock Holmes," Patrick Manson was rather more than the "Dr.

Watson." Ross, the practical researcher, hunted the suspected germ-carrying mosquito in India in the years 1894-98. In London, Manson the theoretician completed the unique partnership, basing his work on the letters the pair exchanged until the conquest of malaria was practically complete.

They Made History tells how they did it, with Richard Attenborough as the commentator.

Preparing a play

MANY young people are not content to sit and watch drama on TV. They want to present plays on their own account.

This is obvious from the many requests Associated-Rediffusion have had for a repeat of *Preparing A Play*, shown in the schools Summer term last year. The two programmes under that title will be repeated this June.

The first part of the drama schedule, for children of 13 and over, begins on 26th April with a dramatised study of Bernard Shaw's *Arms And The Man*.

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The Children's Newspaper, 1st April, 1961

It's quieter now in the cattle sheds

THE WAPITI HAS LOST HIS ANTLERS

THE cattle sheds at London Zoo have suddenly become much quieter. The reason is that Paul, the 650-lb. North American wapiti, has shed his antlers.

For the past few months Paul has been carrying an impressive pair, weighing nearly two stones. Both dropped off his head overnight, considerably changing his appearance, and also his temper.

"Recently visitors have had to stand well clear of the wapiti," said the official. "Often, for no reason at all, he would paw the ground and then charge the fence,

clashing his antlers noisily against the bars. Because of his frequent attacks on the fence, and occasionally on the brick wall of the house, Paul's antlers were not in very good condition—the points of two or three tines were chipped off.

"However, with the loss of his antlers, his bad temper has also gone and visitors will be able to feed him without any danger until about August."

WHO'S WHO at the ZOO

WHY THE EGRETS ARE KEPT INSIDE

INTERESTING new arrivals in the bird section are two of those attractive little white herons known as cattle-egrets. They will join the five others in the Eastern Aviary.

"We are sometimes asked why we do not let these herons fly around freely in the Gardens as these birds do at Whipsnade," said an official. "The answer is that the experiment has been tried, and failed.

"Many years ago we liberated a number of these birds. They cer-

tainly attracted much attention, particularly when they flew over to the cattle sheds to alight on the backs of the cattle and look for parasites, just as they do in their native Africa. But we soon found that they were too fond of foraging in the open-air repitiary for wall lizards. One of the birds even went farther afield—to the centre of London, where it was accused of taking goldfish from an ornamental pool. After that we have always kept cattle-egrets inside aviaries where they can do no harm."

Death of the "tame" scorpion

LONDON Zoo's insect house has lost its largest and (if one can use the expression in this connection) its tamest scorpion. She was Susannah, the West African Imperial scorpion.

"Susannah came to us several years ago from Nigeria," said Mr. Ashby. "Jet black in colour, she measured seven inches from her wicked-looking head to her even more sinister tail-tip. We soon discovered that Susannah was by

no means as ferocious as she looked, however, and before long I was able to handle her quite safely. Although she carried a formidable sting, she never used it.

"Her docility in fact became so astonishing that I often lifted her out of her showcase, where she lived alone, to show visitors, and on several occasions I took her to lectures and exhibitions in various parts of London. She was very easy to feed. She took only one

meal a week, usually cockroaches or locusts. The only thing she didn't seem to like was too much light. For that reason, when in her showcase, she usually lurked partially hidden under a stone.

"It may seem odd to talk of fondness for a scorpion, but that's how it was with Susannah—we all became quite attached to her, and it will probably be a long time before we get another scorpion like her."

HANGING ON TO A FRIEND



Schoolchildren at Brierley Hill, Staffordshire, often stop to feed Joey on their way to school. He is a friendly pony, and because he hates to see them go is apt to catch hold of a sleeve or a scarf to make them stay a little longer.

SPIDERS WHICH LIVE IN THE DARK

Now in the insect section are half-a-dozen oriental spiders which normally spend their entire lives in total darkness. "They are a rare species known as Segmented spiders and were specially collected for us in Malaya," said Mr. George Ashby, overseer of the insect house.

"They were actually caught in caves on the island of Batu.

"They form a link between spiders and scorpions, and are the first of their kind we have ever had at Regent's Park. They are about an inch long, with dark brown bodies plated over the back in regular segments. They are mildly venomous, so we have to be very careful in the handling of them.

"We are exhibiting these spiders in a show-case at the insect house, in a temperature of 70 degrees, and hope that in due course they may breed. We are offering them flies and mealworms, but at the moment we have not been able to get any of them to feed. If the hunger-strike continues, we shall gradually darken the cage until it admits very little daylight. It is possible that the return to darkness will stimulate their appetites."

LOOK OUT FOR THIS FILM

SPOTTED DOG THRILLER

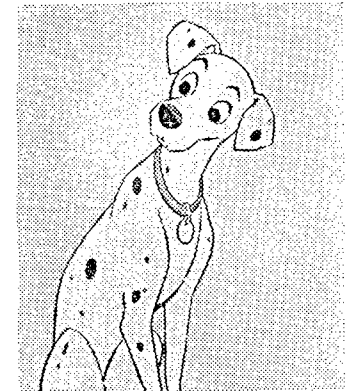
ONE HUNDRED AND ONE DALMATIANS (Walt Disney)

WALT DISNEY has produced a real winner with the latest of his colour cartoons, though there is a lot of black and white in it, too—that is, a lot of Dalmatians.

This time he introduces us to a secret communications network (known only to dogs) by which canine distress calls can be broadcast over London and across country with a speed which Scotland Yard might envy. In fact, the dogs succeed where the police fail; you might say that whine-whine-whine beats 999.

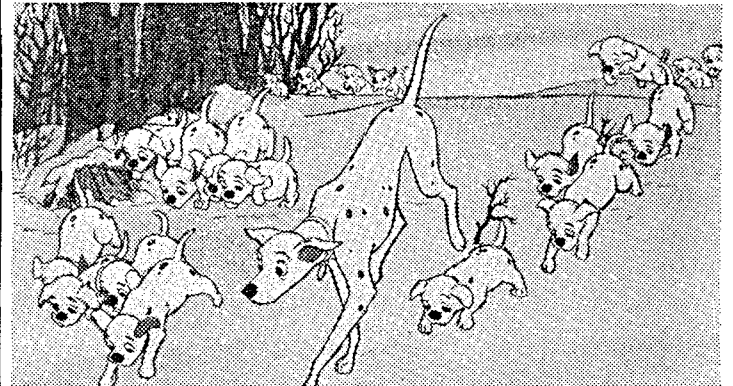
Pongo and Perdita, the Dalmatian parents, have their 15 puppies stolen by two crooks—the crookedest crooks ever seen.

Pongo goes out to Primrose Hill and uses the howl-whine-and-bark broadcast system to find where his offspring are hidden.

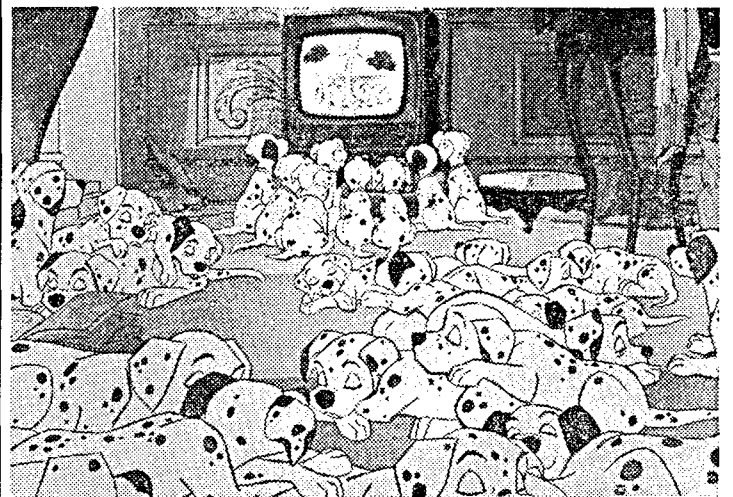


Then follows a long, long trail through the snow, over hill and dale, and at last into wildest Suffolk, where they find and rescue 86 more Dalmatian pups, all similarly kidnapped, to make a dog-skin coat.

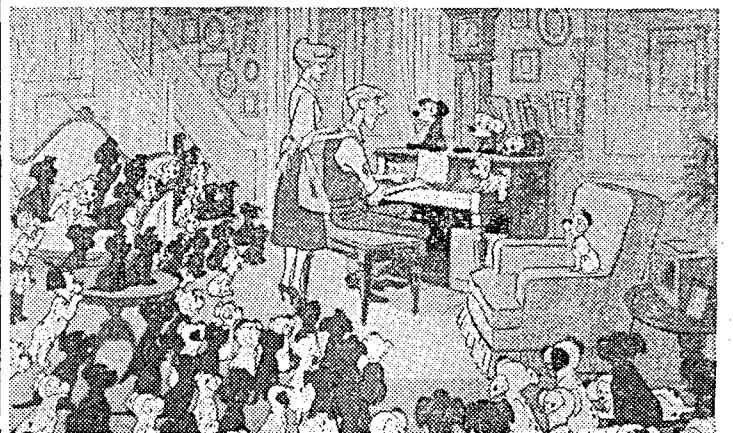
This is Dalmatian Delight from beginning to end.



Leading the rescued pups through the snow



Happy evening in a Dalmatians' home



Something to howl about

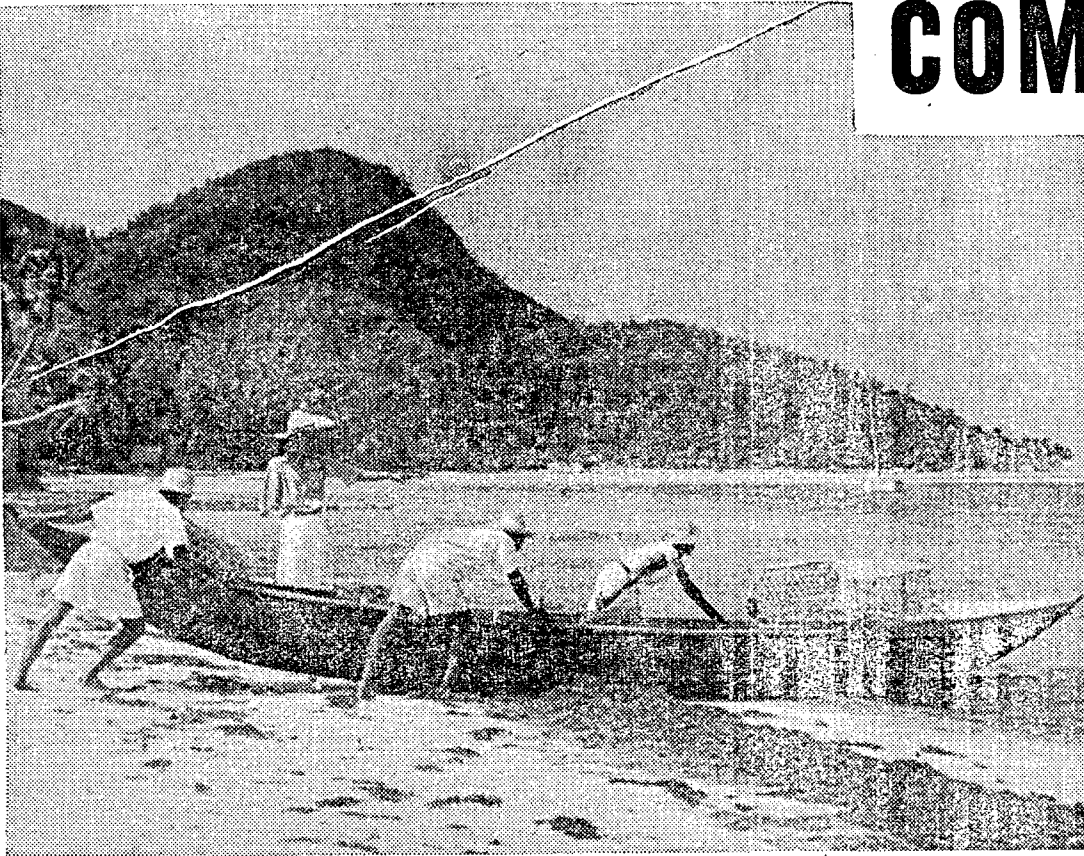
Baby Bison is doing well

THE North American bison calf born the other day at Regent's Park is the first to be bred there since 1956. "Standing only 2½ feet high and weighing about 60 lb., she is unusually small," says a Zoo official. "But she is being well nursed by her mother, Jennifer, and is growing rapidly. The father, a hefty, one-ton animal named Punch, has been removed from the "nursery" temporarily as a precautionary measure, but we hope to allow him to rejoin his family as soon as the calf is weaned.

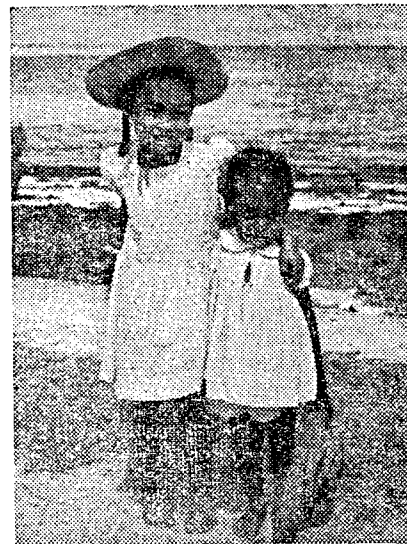
"The calf's ginger coat looks very tidy compared with those of the adult animals. Both Punch and Jennifer look rather ragged just now. This, however, is normal, as both are undergoing the moult. It takes a bison several months to shed its thick Winter coat."

CRAVEN HILL

COMMONWEALTH PAN



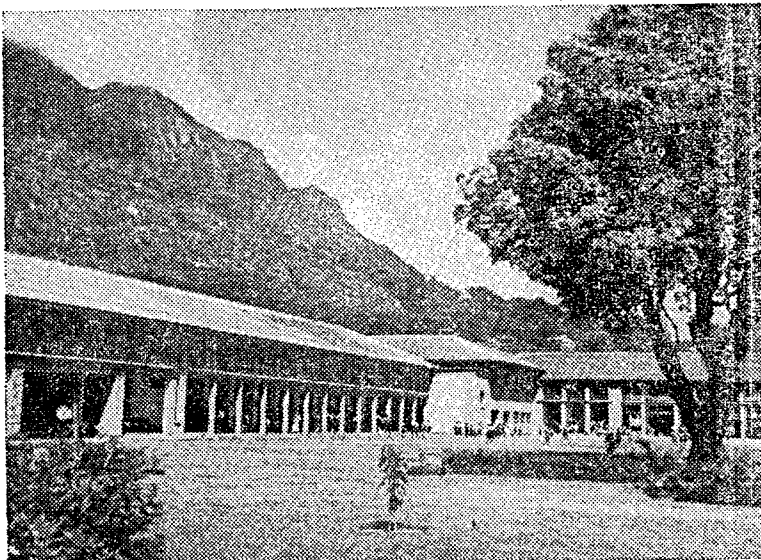
Launching a pirogue, typical fishing boat of the islands



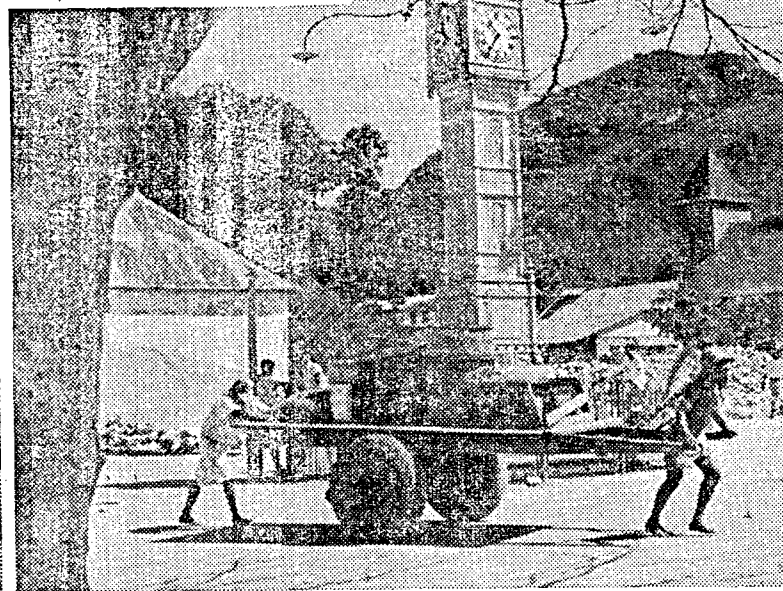
Two Negro children on the seashore

THE Seychelles are a group of islands in the Indian Ocean, about 1,000 miles east of Zanzibar. With the Amirantes, Assumption, Aldabra, and other widely scattered dependencies, the colony consists altogether of 92 islands and islets. The biggest is Mahé (about 55 square miles), and on it stands the capital, Victoria, a seaport and the only town of any consequence. Few of the islands are inhabited, the total population being about 44,000, mainly of mixed African and Indian descent.

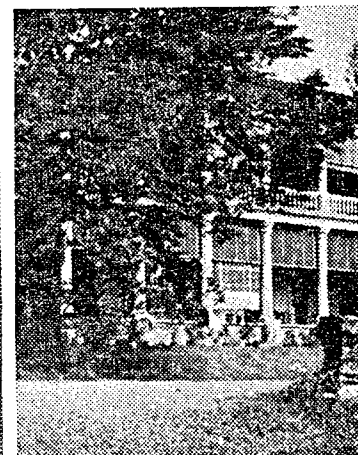
THE French took possession of the Seychelles in 1756, but the islands were captured by a British naval force in 1794 and officially became a British colony in 1810, linked with Mauritius nearly 1,000 miles south. But a remarkable Frenchman named de Quincy was



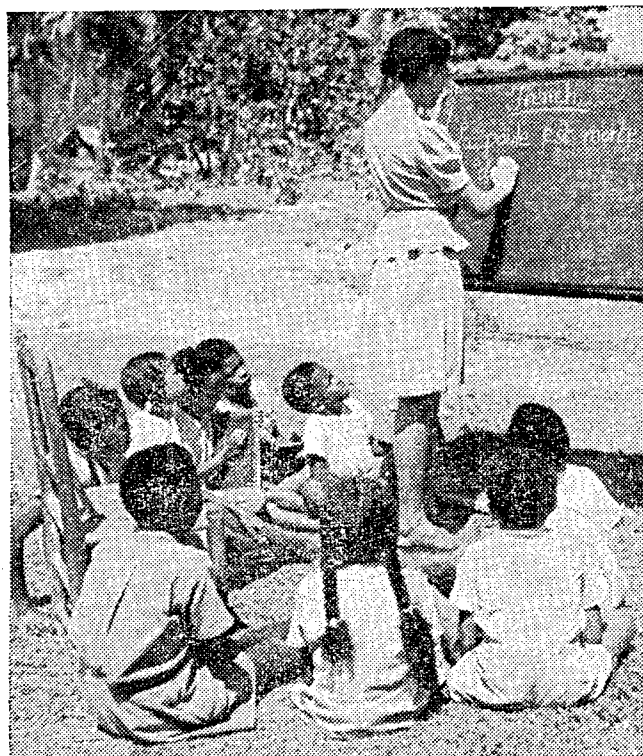
Convent school for girls at Victoria, the capital



Victoria memorial tower in the centre of the capital



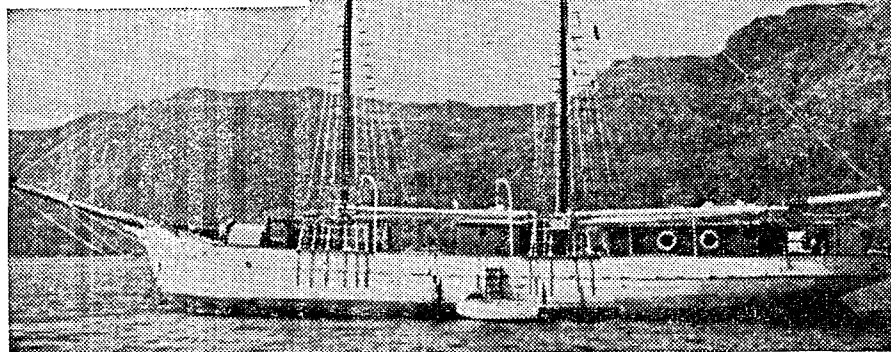
Government House in



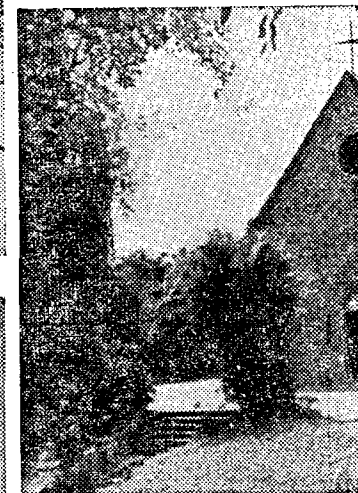
All eyes on the board at an open-air French lesson



Giant land turtle



Two-masted schooners like this are used for trading between the islands



A little chapel 1,800 feet



Making flowerpots from the b

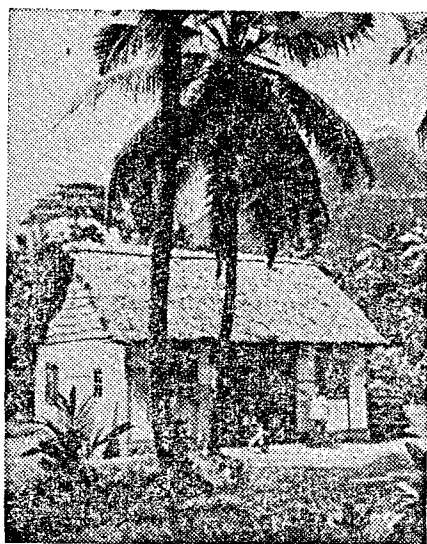
paper, 1st April, 1961

FORAMA—SEYCHELLES

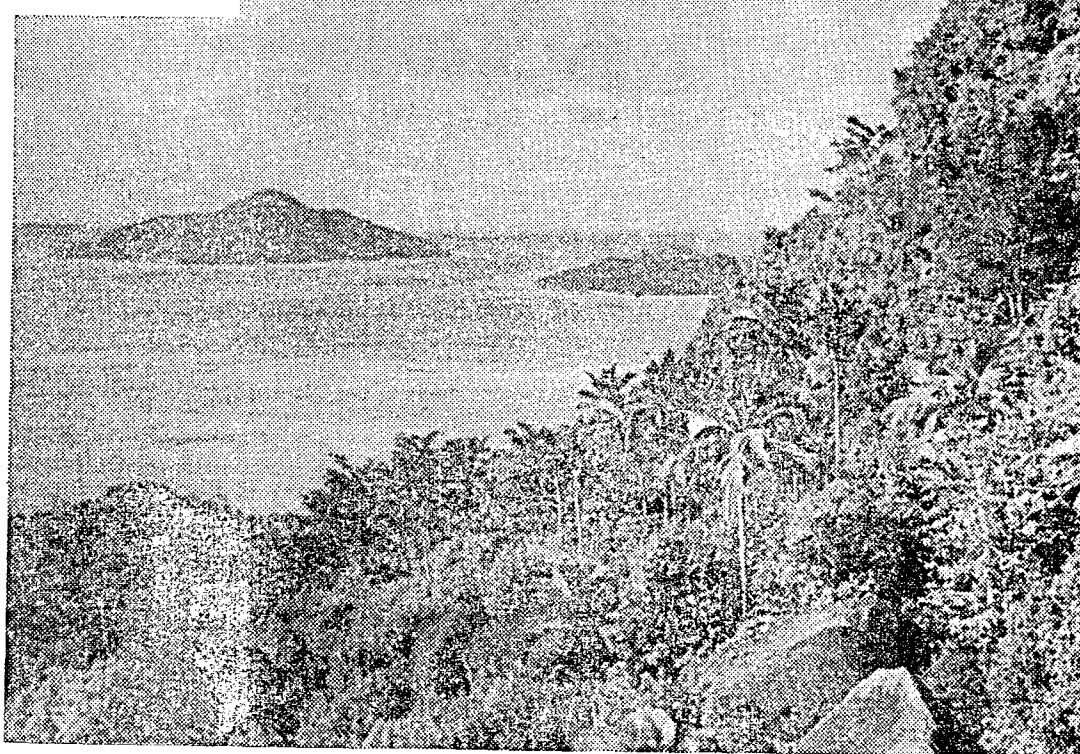
left in authority until his death in 1827. Altogether he administered the islands for 38 years—at first under the French monarchy, then under the Republic and Napoleon, and finally under the British. Administration from Mauritius went on until 1897 when a separate Governor was appointed. Six years later—in August 1903—the Seychelles became a separate Crown Colony.

AGRICULTURE and fishing are the main occupations. The most valuable products are copra, guano, vanilla, and cinnamon leaf oil. Salted fish is exported to East Africa and Ceylon. Among crops grown for home consumption are breadfruit, bananas, cassava, sweet potatoes, fruit, green vegetables.

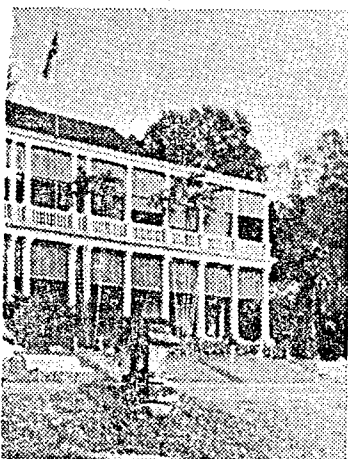
Some of the photographs are reproduced by permission of Mr. Robert King and the Central Office of Information.



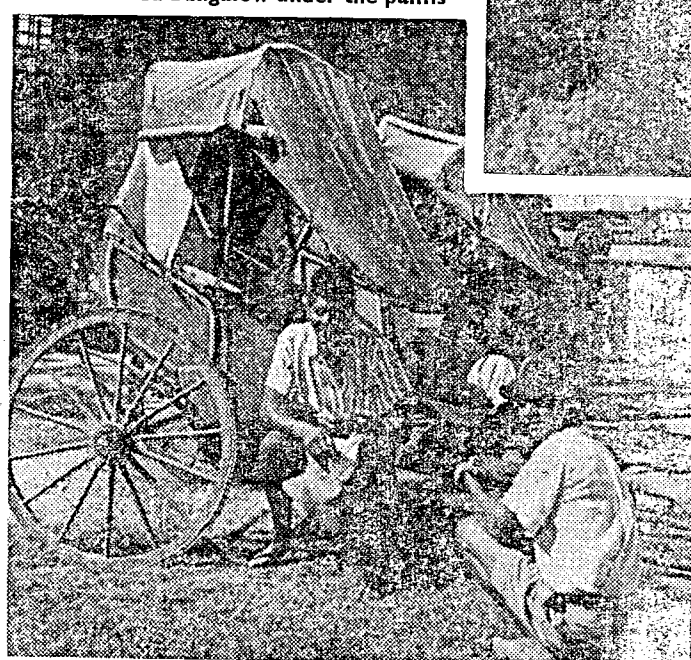
Thatched bungalow under the palms



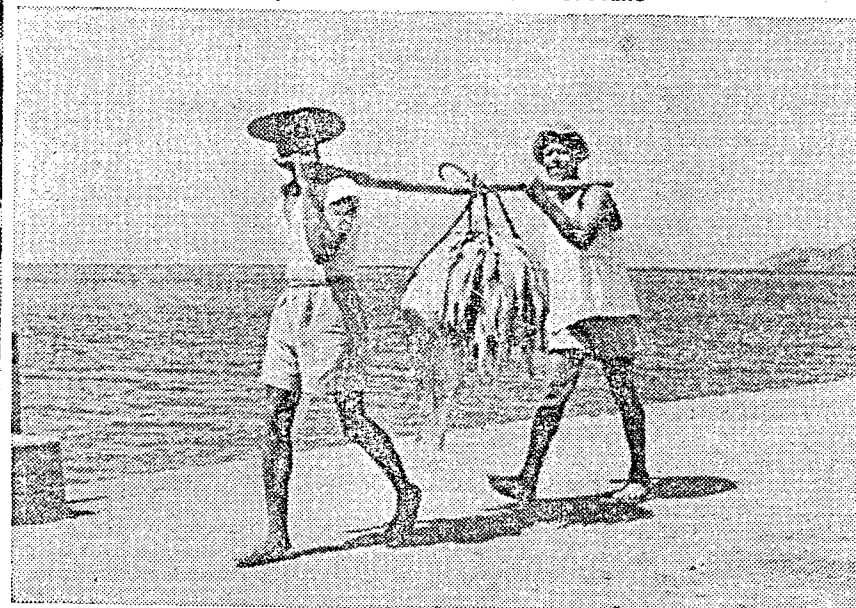
Hilly islets seen from the cliffs of Mahé



its gardens at Victoria



Cars can be hired, but these man-drawn taxis are popular



Two island fishermen quite satisfied with their catch



up in the hills on Mahé



Catching a land crab that has climbed up to get at the coconuts



Cutting fibre (coir) from coconut shells



Tending a vanilla plant



g leaves of a screw-pine tree

ON RECORD

New discs to note

CLIFF RICHARD: *Theme For A Dream* on Columbia DB4593. Since every Cliff Richard record seems to be a hit nowadays, then this song will surely make yet another best-seller, and deservedly so. It has a catchy tune and shows an imaginative use of the chorus, while Cliff proves that he can sing lyrics intelligently. (45. 6s.)

BARBARA WINDSOR: *Funny Face* on HMV POP833. Barbara has been making a name for herself as one of the fresh faces in the theatre. On the strength of this Gershwin song from a famous film she finds herself acclaimed as a disc success, too. (45. 6s. 4d.)

JOAN REGAN: *It Must Be Spring* on Pye 7N15334. This is a cheerful number well sung by Joan and the Corona School Boys and Girls, who sing their *Ting a ling* while Joan tells the story of Spring. A charming record which will be heard frequently during the season. (45. 6s. 4d.)

DORIS DAY: *Show Time* on Philips BBE12421. On this disc Doris Day has four excellent tunes to sing, among them *I Love Paris*. Altogether this could well be called an extra special Day. (EP. 12s. 3d.)

GARY MILLER: *Dream Harbour* on Pye 7N15338. Gary's voice has a lilt which makes it immediately recognisable. For this recording he has chosen a ballad with an unusual off-beat rhythm and the harbour he tells us about sounds an attractive place. (45. 6s. 4d.)

LORIE MANN: *Happy Feet and The Buskers* on Pye 7N25069. Both sides of this record are well worth hearing. On each the atmosphere is the same, gay and full of life. In *The Buskers* we hear the praises of London's theatre-queue performers sung in bright style. (45. 6s. 4d.)

THE ORIGINAL CAST: *Hooray For Daisy* on HMV CLP1434. This is the latest musical to be written by the highly successful composer Julian Slade. The cast includes Eleanor Drew and Dorothy Reynolds and those who have already seen the show will be familiar with songs like *Let's Do A Duet*. (LP. 34s. 11d.)

GEORGE WELDON: *Handel: Water Music and Royal Fireworks Suite* on HMV XLP20033. George Weldon conducts the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in a rousing performance. This record is just one of many excellent programmes to be found on the HMV *Concert Classics* list. They are most reasonably priced, and in every case they are performed by leading orchestras. (LP. 22s. 6d.)

BUD FLANAGAN: *Friendly Street* on Columbia DB4565. This number, and its companion *Just For Laughs*, can be heard in the current Crazy Gang show *Young In Heart*. The first song is just right for Bud with its easy-going beat and pleasant lyrics. (45. 6s.)

Holidays abroad are much more enjoyable if you know a little of the language. For this reason we thoroughly recommend the *Quick*

Bird that was not seen for 50 years

In the *Children's Newspaper* of 4th March there was a note about the rediscovery in New Zealand of the kakapo, a curious kind of parrot that was thought to be extinct. A similar, but much more remarkable case, however, is that of the takahe, or notornis, which was refound in New Zealand in 1948. This bird, which is like an outsize moorhen, had been believed extinct for 50 years.

A year or two after the takahe was rediscovered, scientists made a count of the numbers existing in the small area where the bird survived, and estimated that there were about 20 breeding pairs and between 40 and 60 non-breeders. This area is in the far south of the South Island of New Zealand, in four or five valleys high up in the Murchison Mountains, a few miles west of Lake Te Anau.

Language records—for French, Italian, Spanish, and German—recently issued by Odhams. Each course consists of two seven-inch records and a 128-page guide and reference book—all for 30s. Both sides of the records have a number of clearly-marked bands, making it easy to put the needle back to repeat any particular lesson. The speakers are regular broadcasters in the BBC's Foreign Services.

LONG JOURNEYS FOR THE CHIEF SCOUT

The Chief Scout, Sir Charles Maclean, is hoping to visit every Commonwealth country in the next five years. To make this possible, he will give up farming in Scotland for the time being. He has sold his prize-winning herd of pedigree Highland cattle, and is to let his 300-acre farm at Duart, on the Isle of Mull.



The takahe or notornis of New Zealand
High Commissioner for New Zealand

This part of New Zealand was so little explored that the little lake in the valley where the takahe was actually found was not marked on maps till 1949, though it was known to the Maoris as Kahaka-takahea, "the nesting place of the wanderer." So it is not surprising that the takahe managed to live unobserved for so long. Now, fortunately, the New Zealand Government has created a 400,000-acre wild-life sanctuary which includes the valley of Kahaka-takahea.

When the takahe was rediscovered in 1948, it had actually been seen by white men on only four previous occasions, all between 1849 and 1898. The last time it had been seen was when a dog caught one by Lake Te Anau.

The plumage of the takahe is mainly dark blue, but it is bright green on the back, has white feathers under its tail like the moorhen (these are what ornithologists call its "under tail-

coverts"), a large, bright red bill, and pink legs and feet. It inhabits marshy and swampy ground, and lays up to four eggs, which are cream-coloured with brown spots and mauvish blotches.

The takahe has few enemies, those it has being either man himself or animals introduced by man. Stoats introduced from Europe to New Zealand are a great danger to the bird's eggs, for its nest is on the ground. Deer, also introduced, are liable to tread on the eggs. However, the Wild Life Section of the Department of Internal Affairs of New Zealand has now undertaken the protection of the takahe.

Killed by the cat

Apart from the moas, huge ostrich-like birds that became extinct at least 300 years ago, three kinds of bird have certainly become extinct in New Zealand since white men settled the country at the beginning of the last century. One of these was a kind of quail, another an owl, and the third a small, wren-like bird that used to live on Stephen Island, a tiny island in Cook Strait. This bird has the distinction of being both discovered and exterminated by a lighthouse-keeper's cat. This happened in 1894, and so far as is known this formidable feline polished off the entire world population of this small bird in one year.

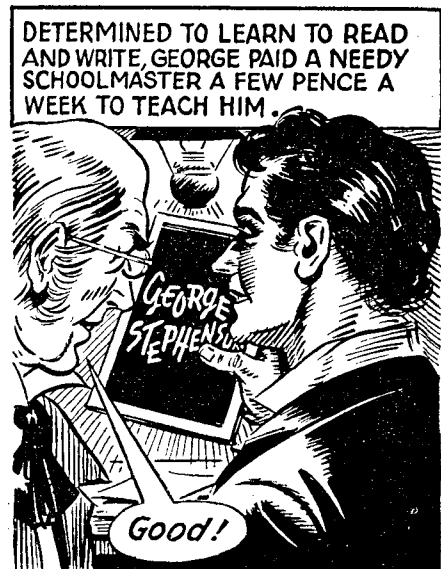
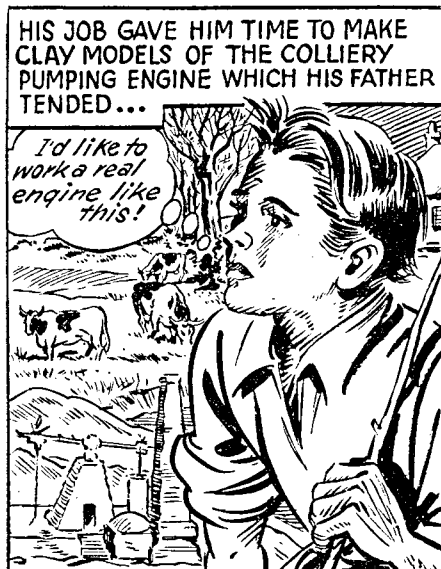
RICHARD FITTER

GEORGE STEPHENSON—Father of the world's railways (1)

George Stephenson was born in the village of Wylam in Northumberland in 1781. His father

was an ill-paid colliery worker whose family all lived in one room. George had no schooling and

began work when he was eight, earning twopence a day by looking after a neighbour's cows.



THE YOUNG ENGINEER IS STARTING AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LADDER. SEE NEXT WEEK'S INSTALMENT.

The Children's Newspaper, 1st April, 1961

On the school train Jennings and Darbishire are ordered out of the carriage by Mr. Wilkins. They settle in the rear coach which is later uncoupled, but are given a lift on the shunting engine. Meanwhile, the rest of the school party continues its journey to Dunham-bury unaware that the boys are missing.

5. Special train

THE school train was approaching Dunham-bury Station as Venables clambered on to the seat and began lifting the hand luggage down from the rack.

"It's about time Jen and Darbi came back for their cases," he observed.

Atkinson buttoned up his rain-coat and put on his cap. "We can't leave them in the carriage. We'll have to bung them out on to the platform if they don't turn up."

The train slowed to a stop and Mr. Wilkins' vast voice could be heard booming out orders in the corridor.

"Come along now, you boys. hurry up out of these carriages and make sure you've left nothing behind."

The carriage doors swung open and the boys streamed out, their lively chatter echoing from end to end of the platform. A double-decker bus had been chartered to take the party from Dunham-bury town to Linbury Court, and Mr. Carter went out into the station approach to check the transport arrangements for this last lap of the journey.

The train was a mere speck in



JUST LIKE JENNINGS

by Anthony Buckeridge

"They must be here somewhere," Mr. Wilkins retorted. His eye swept down the ranks of youthful passengers. "Jennings! Darbishire!" he barked. "Answer your names at once!"

There was no reply, except by Venables who repeated: "Well, here are their suitcases, anyway, sir," as though offering Mr. Wilkins some slight consolation.

"Quiet, Venables! I'm not talking to anybody's suitcases." The master's voice was edgy, for by now he was extremely worried. Where on earth had the silly little boys got to?

He was still wrestling with the riddle when Mr. Carter returned from the station yard and reported that the bus had not yet arrived.

"Just as well. We're not ready to go yet," said Mr. Wilkins. "We seem to have accidentally mislaid a couple of boys."

"Not Jennings and Darbishire!" Mr. Carter had a flair for pinpointing the most likely culprits in any trouble that happened to be brewing. "I'd better make some inquiries right away."

Mr. Wilkins, torn between worry and exasperation, was pacing up and down like a caged tiger. His feelings were not improved by the news that Mr. Carter's quest had been fruitless.

By this time the double-decker bus had arrived and most of the boys were seething with impatience to finish their journey.

There was really no point in detaining them, so Mr. Carter decided they should go on to Linbury with Mr. Wilkins while he himself waited at the station for news of the absentees. He was not looking forward to his vigil as he had already found out that no further trains were due until after eight o'clock.

"Ancient old cronk"

The order to embark was given and the platform cleared as the chattering column filed past the two masters and out into the station yard.

Venables, Temple, and Atkinson were at the tail of the queue and as they approached the barrier their attention was drawn by an old tank engine drawing a brake van which puffed noisily into the station and pulled up farther along the platform.

"Gosh! What an ancient old cronk. I reckon it's escaped from the Science Museum," Venables said with a grin.

"Ye olde original one-horse-power Rocket," Temple agreed. "I shouldn't have thought they'd still have wheezy old relics like that with..."

His words tailed away and his mouth stayed open in shocked surprise. For as he watched the door of the brake van opened and two familiar figures in crimson school caps jumped down on to the platform.

"Wow! Fossilised fish-hooks! Look, sir, look!" shrilled Venables. "It's Jennings and Darbishire, sir, arriving by special train."

Arriving in style

The two masters swung round and stared in the direction of the boy's pointing finger. For a moment Mr. Wilkins was incapable of speech, but Mr. Carter gave a sigh of relief and said: "Thank goodness. Trust Jennings and Darbishire to arrive in style."

Atkinson hopped from foot to foot with excitement. "Super-fantabulistic news! Wow, aren't they lucky! I thought it was only Royalty and people who had special trains laid on for them."

Once on the platform Jennings and Darbishire turned towards the engine for a final word with Cyril and Perce. There followed a bout of handshakes, after which the boys hurried back along the platform to report their safe arrival to the masters.

Wilkins admitted. "But even so, I should have thought you'd have had enough sense not to—er—to—er..."

"Not to do what you told us, sir?" Jennings inquired in wide-eyed innocence.

Mr. Wilkins took a deep breath. "Oh, go and get on the bus, both of you."

Obediently the boys made for the barrier, but a moment later Jennings was back.

"Sir, please, sir, Mr. Wilkins, sir. I forgot to take the number of that engine that gave us a lift, sir. Darbishire and I collect engine numbers, you see, so could I just nip back and make a note of it, while it's still there, sir?"

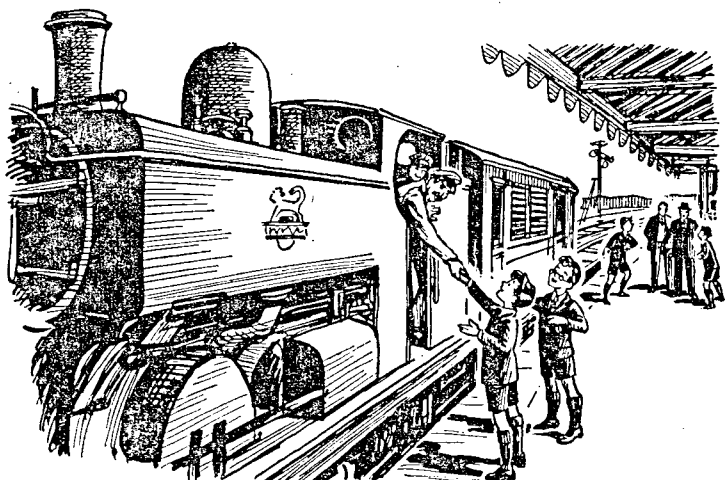
Mr Wilkins explodes

Mr. Wilkins' simmering emotions now boiled over completely. "No, you could not!" he stormed, brandishing his walking-stick like a tomahawk. "I'm not letting you boys out of my reach unless I go with you."

Five minutes later, with the school party safely aboard, the bus started off on the last five miles of the journey to Linbury Court.

Mr. Carter was the last to climb aboard after having made another telephone call to assure the headmaster that the situation was now under control. As he took his seat he turned to his colleague with a wan smile. "I'm afraid your plan for a last peaceful afternoon before term starts hasn't worked out too well."

Continued on page 10



A final word with Cyril and Perce

the distance by the time Mr. Wilkins had arranged the boys into some semblance of order. When they were lined up to his satisfaction he thumped the platform with his walking-stick and said: "Right! Now first of all, is everybody here?"

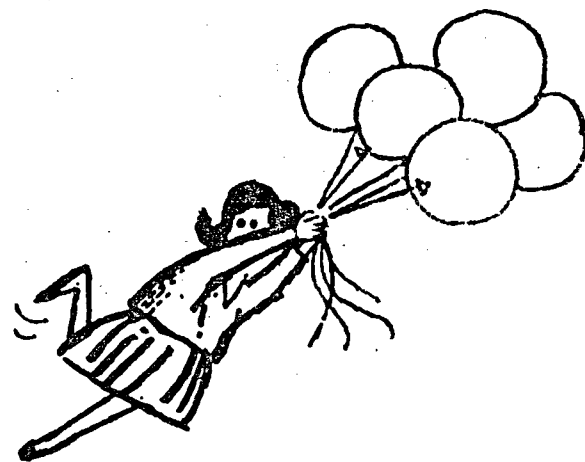
"Yes, sir!" the whole party chorused in unison.

"Be quiet! If you all shout 'Yes' together at the tops of your voices I can't hear if anybody's saying 'No.'"

Temple and Venables, each bearing a heavy suitcase in addition to his own, staggered up to the master in charge. "Sir, please, sir, what shall we do with these?" Venables asked. "We brought them out of the carriage because Jennings and Darbishire didn't come back to collect them, and now we can't find them anywhere on the platform, sir."

The late arrival of the bus had ceased to be a matter of importance, for now a far more urgent problem had arisen. Leaving his colleague in charge of the boys on the platform Mr. Carter made his way to the telephone kiosk outside the station. First he rang up Linbury Court and informed Mr. Pemberton-Oakes, the headmaster, of the mysterious disappearance of two of his pupils. Then he telephoned to every station on the line at which the train had stopped, for he thought it probable that the boys might have wandered into the wrong part of the train by mistake. But no one had seen them alight and his efforts to trace the whereabouts of the missing passengers were unsuccessful.

Twenty minutes later he emerged from the phone box and returned to the platform, where



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WORLD OF STAMPS

JUBILEE OF WORLD'S FIRST AIR MAIL

AN historic anniversary, the jubilee of the world's first official airmail, has just been celebrated in India with the issue of three commemorative stamps.

Fifty years ago a British naval officer, Commander Sir Walter Windham, was asked to take six Humber monoplanes and one Somner biplane to Allahabad, in the United Provinces of northern India. An exhibition of agriculture and industry was being held there, and the planes were to be assembled in its grounds, and used for short demonstration flights.

Now, at the time funds were needed to open a hostel for students at Allahabad University,



and Commander Windham had the idea of helping by selling souvenir envelopes and postcards which would be carried a short distance in one of the planes.

The Postmaster-General of the United Provinces gave his permission and a French airman, M. Picquet, agreed to pilot the Somner biplane carrying the mail. Taking off from the exhibition grounds, he crossed the River Jumna and landed at Naini, five miles away. From there the letters and postcards continued their journey by the usual means of transport, train or bullock cart.

Two of the new Indian stamps which mark the anniversary show the Somner biplane of 1911. The third, also pictured here, shows the special postmark which was used on the mail.

Later in the same year Commander Windham organised the

first official airmail service in Great Britain. This carried mail on about 20 trips between Hendon and Windsor. Souvenir postcards and envelopes were again sold and



the proceeds were given to the King Edward VII Hospital at Windsor.

Now, 50 years later, all our letters to European countries go by airmail without extra charge.

THE second Caribbean Scout Jamboree opens next week in Trinidad, in the West Indies, and two special stamps are being issued there to celebrate the event.

Two other Boy Scout issues have appeared recently in Brazil

and Argentina. The Brazilian stamp, which marked the 50th anniversary of Scouting in Brazil, portrays a very spick and span Boy Scout. The Argentine stamp, issued for an international jamboree, shows the Scout badge.

Collectors who specialise in stamps connected with the Boy Scout Movement may like to know that there is a very active



society which caters for this branch of the hobby. It is known as the Scout Stamps Collectors' Club and has its own magazine.

The honorary secretary, Mr. H. L. Fears, of 11 Salisbury Road, Seaford, Sussex, will be glad to send particulars of membership to anyone who is interested. Please remember to enclose a stamp for his reply.

C. W. HILL.

CN Competition No. 9

SPORTS PRIZES TO BE WON!

CALLING all sport enthusiasts! Here is another grand opportunity for boys and girls to win prizes which give endless hours of open-air fun. The five winners can choose a Cricket Bat, Tennis Racket, Football, Netball, or Roller Skates. Book Tokens will be sent to the ten runners-up.

This competition is open to all readers under 17 living in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, and the Channel Islands; entry is free. Just look carefully at the eight objects of sportswear in the drawing below, then study the following list of 16 sports and decide in which of them these articles are used: Archery, Baseball, Boxing, Climbing, Cricket, Cycling, Fencing, Football, Hockey, Lacrosse, Motor-racing, Netball, Polo, Rifle-shooting, Tennis, and Track-running.

List neatly on a postcard the numbers of the eight objects illustrated, with the sport you think it represents beside each one, then add your full name, address, and age. Say which prize you would like if you win, ask a parent or guardian to sign the entry as your own unaided work, then post it to:

CN Competition No. 9,
3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.).

to arrive by Tuesday, 11th April, the closing date.

The five first prizes, as chosen by the winners, will be awarded for the neatest correct entries, with writing and age taken into consideration. Book Tokens will be sent for the ten next best in order of merit. The Editor's decision is final.



JUST LIKE JENNINGS

Continued from page 9

Mr. Wilkins glowered at the two disturbers of the peace sitting proudly in the front seats retailing their exploits to an admiring and envious audience.

"Don't talk to me about peaceful afternoons," he snorted. "I ask you, Carter, if we have all this tomfoolery about loco-spotting under carriage seats and thumbing lifts on antiquated engines before we've even got back to school, then what in the name of thunder is the rest of the term going to be like!" He thumped the floor with his stick in a gesture of exasperation. "Answer me that, Carter! Answer me that."

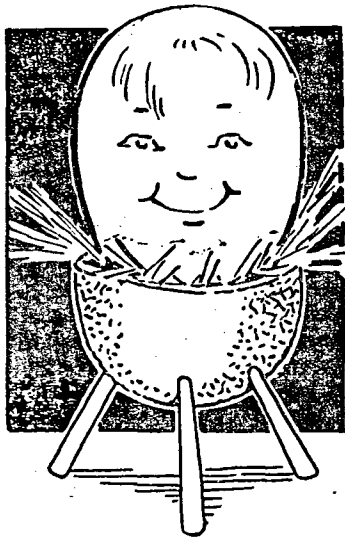
Mr. Carter settled down comfortably in his seat and filled his pipe with slow, unhurried movements. "Time will tell, Wilkins," he said calmly. "Time will tell."

To be continued

The Children's Newspaper, 1st April, 1961

EASTER PUZZLE

AN Easter decoration, which often you will see. Is also seen abroad, as a graceful, lofty tree. It casts a welcome shade on the burning desert sand. The answer to this riddle is connected with your hand.

Holiday egg-cup

THE peel of half an orange can be made into a cup in which to place an Easter egg. Put matchsticks or pieces of twig in place to form the legs (as seen in the illustration), and lay wool inside the peel. Your orange cup is then ready for the egg.

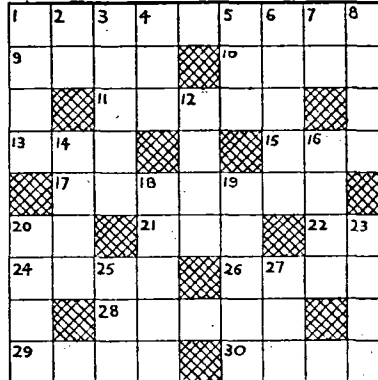
PUZZLE PARADE**End with T**

First, find the answer to the first part of the clue; when you have done so, put the letter T at the end of it to form the answer to the second part.

Song of a dove; water bird
Vegetable; fuel from vegetation
Small bay; longing to possess
Owing; music for two
Number; canvas shelter
A play on words, kind of boat
Pale; in need
Heavenly body; the beginning

Crossword puzzle

READING ACROSS. 1 Person who puts money into bank. 9 Sign of some future event. 10 Title. 11 Writing tables. 13 Health resort. 15 Black sticky liquid. 17 Maintained. 20 Upon. 21 Poem. 22 Doctor. 24 Brave person. 26 Trick. 28 Such tiny things! 29 Cereal. 30 Despatch. READING DOWN. 1 Canines. 2 Printers' measure. 3 Foot-lever. 4 Single. 5 Writing liquid. 6 Sample. 7 Order of Merit. 8 Back. 12 Sleigh. 14 Sheet of glass. 16 Totals. 18 Plunders. 19 They can spread disease. 20 American State. 23 Tear. 25 Rodent. 27 Employ.



Answer next week

THREE'S COMPANY

In this word puzzle (a) is a clue to a three-letter word which, with another letter added, gives the answer to (b). A further letter is added to make a five-letter answer to clue (c). Example: fee, feet, fleet.

Answers are given in column 5

- (a) Birds fly in it.
(b) Wild animal's den.
(c) Natural aptitude.
- (a) Sleeping place.
(b) Part of a necklace.
(c) Staff of life.
- (a) Very tiny.
(b) Shed tears.
(c) Clean with a broom.
- (a) Wickedness.
(b) Lower part of a leg.
(c) Radiate light.
- (a) Tie-on-label.
(b) Male deer.
(c) Where plays are acted.
- (a) Belonging to us.
(b) Sullen.
(c) Scent.

OUT OF PLACE

Can you name the character which is out of place among the following?

Red Riding Hood; Goody Two Shoes; Aladdin; Dick Whittington; Babes in the Wood.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

A CHEETAH played games with a gnu,
And the times when he won were not few.
Said the gnu with a sneer,
"I'm beginning to fear
That your name, Mister Cheetah,
fits you."

RING THE PINS

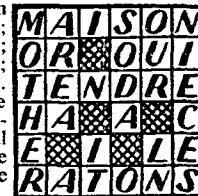
THIS is an easily-made game for a wet day. Take the lid from a round cheese box and paste into it some small numbers—one to nine—cut from an old calendar. Lay the lid on a square of wood or two layers of thick cardboard as a base and drive a pin through the centre of each figure so that it stands firm.

Use small curtain rings to play the game. The object is to try and throw the rings so that they land round the pins on top of the numbers, scoring accordingly. Six rings is a good number for each player and the lid should be cleared of all rings before each player starts.

Arrange beforehand to play so many rounds, or up to a given number. The one who has scored most wins.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Easter puzzle. LAST WEEK'S ANSWER
T. Coo-t; pea-t; cove-t; due-t; ten-t; pun-t; wan-t; start.
Out of Place
Dick Whittington was a real person; the others are fictional.

**THREE'S COMPANY**

1 air, lair, flair. 2 bed, bead, bread.
3 wee, weep, sweep. 4 sin, shin, shine.
5 tag, stag, stage. 6 our, dour, odour.



Find the Fault

COMPETITION

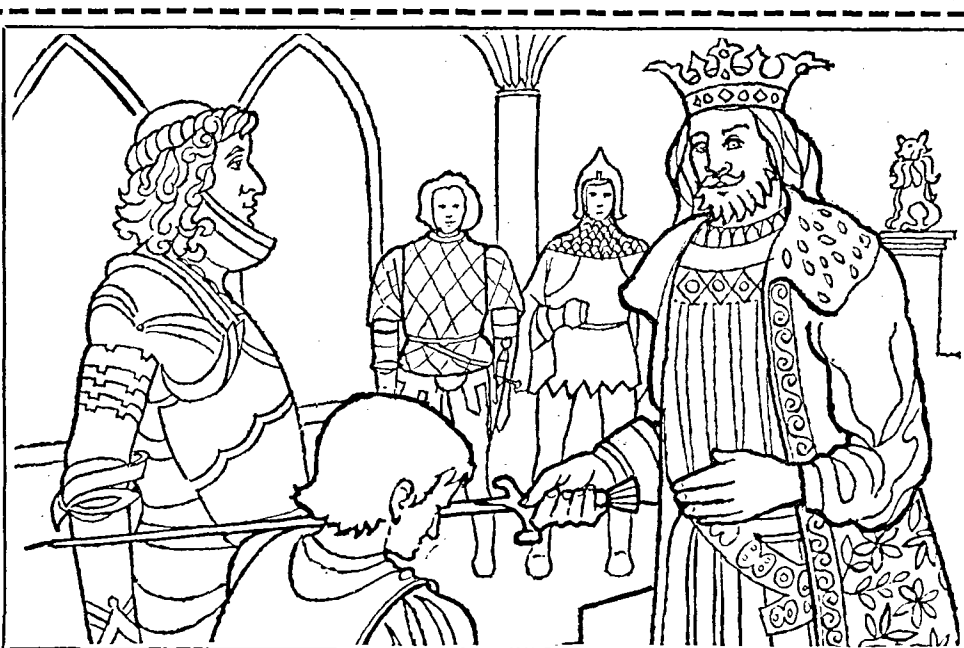
Six new EKO pocket transistor radios to be won!
ALSO 100 CONSOLATION PRIZES OF NESTLÉ'S CHOCOLATE

There is something wrong in the smaller picture—a deliberate mistake. Spot the mistake and mark it on the picture. Then colour the larger picture with paint or crayon. Complete the form and send it plus one wrapper from a 6d. Milky Bar (or two wrappers from 3d. Milky Bars) to the address below. Competitors from Eire send one Milky Bar wrapper.

Read the Rules Carefully

- Entries must arrive not later than April 30th and cannot subsequently be returned to competitors.
- Entrants must be residents of Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Eire or the Channel Islands.
- Children of the employees of the Nestlé Company Ltd., or of their advertising agents are not eligible to compete.
- Prizes will be awarded for the best colouring of the picture in the following age groups:

- (a) aged 8 and under; (b) aged 9 or 10; (c) aged 11 to 15.
- There will be two winners in every group who will each be given a new Ekco transistor radio or cash equivalent.
- 100 Consolation prizes of Nestlé's Chocolate will be awarded to the runners-up.
- Winners will be notified by post, and results may be obtained from the Nestlé Co. Ltd., after May 15th. The judges' decision is final.

**ENTRY FORM**

Post to:-
Nestlé's Milky Bar Competition,
Dept. N.8, 317 High Holborn, London,
W.C.99.

NAME

ADDRESS

AGE HB55

GET YOUR NESTLÉ'S MILKY BAR NOW!

Hurray for Milky Bar, the pure creamy-white bar with the chocolatey flavour. Super!

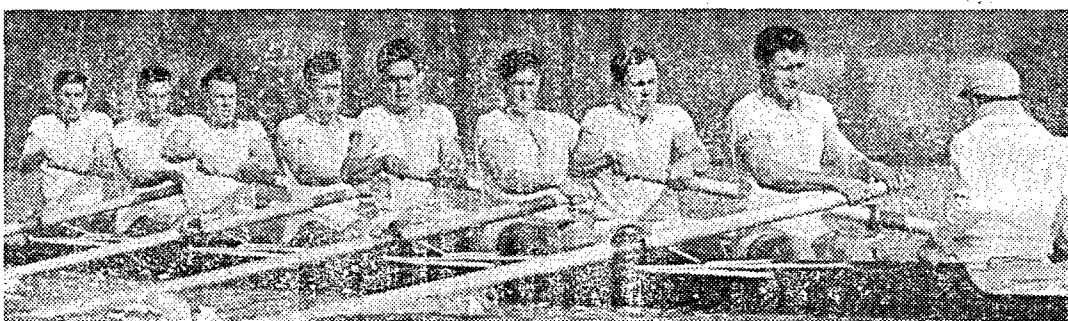
ALL READY FOR THE BOAT RACE

SATURDAY'S Boat Race between Oxford and Cambridge promises to be one of the best since the war: it might also be one of the fastest.

Both crews have trained in one of the mildest Winters for some time, freed from the usual misery of chilled muscles and frozen hands. As a result, both have made rapid progress.

Added to this, Oxford and Cambridge each have their own particular incentive. The Dark Blues will be out to complete a hat-trick of victories, their first since 1911; and the Light Blues intend to regain their age-long supremacy over the Putney to Mortlake course. With this in mind they have noticeably concentrated on a high rate of stroking.

"We appear to be the underdogs this time," Cambridge President John Beveridge told C.N.



Cambridge and Oxford (below) during training on the Thames

"That's not necessarily a bad thing. Oxford have everything to lose and, as challengers, we have the determination to upset them."

Oxford certainly are the hottest favourites for years. Having successfully introduced spade-shaped oars in last year's race, they have gone one further this time with spade oars measuring 13 feet 1 inch (11 inches longer than last

year). Such oars went out of fashion at the beginning of the century, but the Germans used them when winning the eights in the Rome Olympic Games.

Something else in Oxford's favour is the experience of their stroke, C. M. Davis. Davis led Great Britain's eight in the Olympics and is the first man with that honour to lead a Boat Race crew.

Of course, many strokes have progressed in the other direction—from Boat Race to Olympics.

Said Oxford President, J. L. Elliott: "We are going to complete that hat-trick. We plan to prove that Oxford is not the traditional home of lost causes!"

Cambridge trained on three rivers (the Cam, the Ouse, and the Thames at Henley), but Oxford spent all their nine weeks of preparation on the Wallingford reach. Actually, it was Cambridge, rowing 39 strokes in a minute, who impressed most when both crews had their first outings on the Tideway three weeks ago. However, only on Saturday afternoon, in the 107th race, will we know whether they are able to sustain such pressure against a smooth-gliding Oxford.



First Indian Boy Over Hump and Dump and Cobbler Bend

HARBAN SINGH, of Broad Heath School, Coventry, has been selected for the English Schools Rugby (Under-15) team to play Wales at Twickenham on Saturday. He is the first Indian to be awarded a cap in this age group.

Harban, who comes from the Punjab, has been in this country for six years, but took up rugby only three years ago. He missed the final trial through injury but an outstanding performance in the first match ensured his selection.

Broad Heath School also provides the England team with fly-half Alan James, and the school can now boast 20 internationals.

England's senior schoolboys will also be in action on Saturday, when they meet the French schools team at Leicester. Included in the English team is W. Thomas, son of Watcyn Thomas, the Swansea forward who won 14 caps for Wales between 1927 and 1933.

SCOTLAND'S Easter motor sport event, the 750-mile Highland Rally, will have a pronounced Monte Carlo flavour this year. Many Scottish drivers who took part in the "Monte" last January will be among the 100 entrants. A further Monte Carlo touch will be given by the use of the 70-foot starting ramp when the crews set out from Glasgow on Friday night.

The Rally route is a tough one, running into the high vastness of the Cairngorms. Competitors will leave Alexandra Parade, Glasgow, at one-minute intervals, beginning at 11 p.m. Headlamps only will light their way up the Rest and Be Thankful hill, the hazardous ravine-spanning "Hump and Dump," and Cobbler Bend, nestling at the foot of the mountain of that name.

The tortuous overnight run will end for a breakfast halt at Oban. The crews will then press on as

fast as they can to reach Perth by the afternoon.

Sunday's highlight will be driving tests at the disused aerodrome at Gask, and the last leg of the rally, on Easter Monday, will be over looped routes beginning and ending near Perth.

GIRL HURDLER WANTS TO BEAT HER OWN RECORD

CAROL QUINTON, who won a silver medal in the Olympic 80 metres hurdles in Rome, is particularly keen to have another good season this Summer, for she is retiring in August to marry the new British water polo coach, David Barr.

There are no big championships for Carol this Summer so she is aiming to improve her own British record for the 80 metre hurdles.

Plastic for practice

John Edrich of Surrey examines a plastic strip for practice pitches such as this one in Ruskin Park, South London.



Cyclists on parade

MANY of Europe's finest amateur racing cyclists will be in action this Friday at Herne Hill, South-East London.

Stars from Belgium, Holland, Italy, Switzerland, East and West Germany, as well as British riders will take part in the meeting, the highlight of which will be the Champion of Champions sprint over 200 metres.

Two riders likely to reach the final are Lloyd Binch, the British sprint champion, and Dave Handley, who was third in the world championships at Leipzig last Summer.

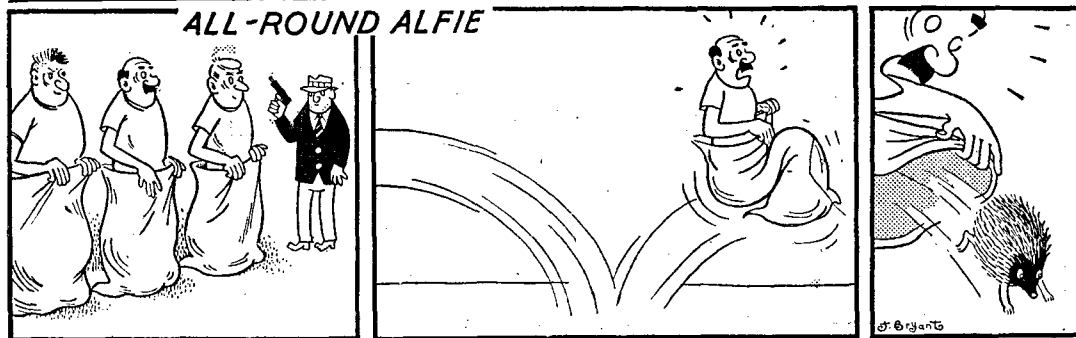
Favourite for the title will be Giuseppe Beghetto of Italy, holder of the world indoor 200 metres record, and gold medallist in the Olympic tandem event.

DUELS AT LEAMINGTON

THE clash of steel will echo in Leamington Spa's Town Hall over Easter when 200 fencers will compete in team and individual bouts at the 21st International Fencing Tournament.

Strong opposition in the team competitions (which will be fought off on Good Friday evening) is expected from the visiting Dutch team, which last year won the Sabre Team Cup.

British fencing has made notable strides since the war, and in the past five years has claimed a women's Olympic champion (Gillian Sheen, in 1956), and two world champions (Bill Hoskyns, épée, in 1958, and Allan Jay, foil, in 1959).



New tournament for young tennis players

A NEW national lawn tennis tournament for boys and girls between 14 and 18 is to be introduced this month.

The Nestlé Company has provided an endowment of £15,000 to be spent over the first three years, and the newly-formed Lawn Tennis Foundation will manage the scheme.

Up to the quarter-finals competitors will make their own arrangements for playing their matches, but the semi-finals and finals will be held at the Queen's Club in London. Prizes include trophies, rackets, and cash vouchers.

Full details and entry forms may be obtained from The Manager, Lawn Tennis Foundation, Queen's Club, London, S.W.14. Closing date for entries, 10th April.

CRICKET FOR THE LADIES

THOUSANDS of girls are getting ready for the cricket season. The game is now played at more than 100 girls' schools in this country and there are also over 200 women's cricket clubs. All of them belong to the Women's Cricket Association.